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Illinois Displaced Homemaker Centers Directory

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Illinois Network for Displaced Homemakers
Sangamon State University
Springfield, IL 62794-9243

Why Displaced Homemaker Centers?

In 1977, the Illinois General Assembly recognized that there is an increasing number of persons in this state, who in their middle years and having fulfilled the role of homemaker, find themselves displaced because of dissolution of marriage, death of spouse or other loss of family income.

A displaced homemaker is almost always a woman, and is generally over 35 years old. She may no longer be eligible for public assistance because her children are grown. She often lacks the job skills or work experience needed to enter the labor market readily; yet she must **work to survive**.

The Displaced Homemaker Assistance Act established the first multipurpose centers to assist displaced homemakers in becoming financially independent and contributing members of society. The Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs administers the program.

The primary source of funding for Illinois programs is state general revenue monies. A number of programs utilize vocational education funds, Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) funds, and local sources of revenue.

The Illinois Network for Displaced Homemakers provides referrals to women seeking assistance in finding a displaced homemaker program in their area. For more information about the programs in this brochure or to learn more about displaced homemakers call toll-free 800/252-4822.



What services are provided by Displaced Homemaker Centers?

The services offered by these displaced homemaker centers are basically the same, depending on the resources and staff available at each center. Program services usually include:

Counseling — helping the individual to develop self-esteem and a more positive identity; coping skills; assessment of skills and strengths; and setting personal goals.

Referral — helping the individual to identify within the community resources in the area of health care and nutrition, financial matters, education, and legal assistance.

Job Readiness Workshops — helping the individual to enter the job market. This is usually the major focus of displaced homemaker programs. Workshops may include remedial tutoring sessions in general subjects or basic communication skills; assessing homemaking and volunteer skills; resume writing and interviewing techniques; stress and time management; and researching the job market.

Education and Training — helping the individual to identify sources of training, financial assistance with education, completion of GED, career exploration, and development.

Job Development and Placement — helping the individual reach financial independence. This goal of displaced homemaker programs includes educating the displaced homemaker on the job search as well as selling employers on the worth of displaced homemakers. Some programs can assist individuals with starting their own businesses.

Survival Skills on the Job — helping the individual to handle crises on the job, office politics, and how to change jobs.

Where are Displaced Homemaker Centers located?

1. **New Opportunities**
1400 W. Main, Suite C & D
Carbondale, IL 62901
Contact: Kathy Gyure
618/529-2412
2. **Illinois Network for Displaced Homemakers**
(information & referral)
Sangamon State University
Springfield, IL 62794-9243
Contact: Jane Olsen
217/786-6016 or
800/252-4822
3. **Community Service Council of Northern Will County**
375 W. Briarcliff
Bolingbrook, IL 60439
Contact: Gloria Hollister
312/759-0520
4. **YWCA-West Suburban**
26 W. St. Charles Rd.
Lombard, IL 60148
Contact: Kit Mathey
312/629-0170
5. **Southwest Women Working Together**
3201 W. 63rd St.
Chicago, IL 60629
Contact: Marjorie Sharp
312/436-0550
6. **Chicago City-Wide College**
30 East Lake St.
Chicago, IL 60601
Contact: Bobbie Bradley
312/984-2785
7. **YWCA-Lake County**
445 N. Genesee St.
Waukegan, IL 60085
Contact: Sally Foster
312/662-4247
8. **Harper College**
Algonquin and Roselle Rds.
Palatine, IL 60067
Contact: Rena Trevor
312/397-3000 x 560
9. **Fresh Beginnings**
Rock Valley College
3350 N. Bell School Road
Rockford, IL 61111
Contact: Pam Ward
815/654-4273
10. **Richland Community College**
2425 Federal Drive
Decatur, IL 62526
Contact: Kathy Sorensen
217/875-7200 x 250
11. **Black Hawk College**
6600 34th Avenue
Moline, IL 61265
Contact: Kathy Kessler
309/797-5017
12. **Lincoln Land Community College**
Springfield, IL 62708
Contact: Jane Shuman
217/786-2335
13. **Olney Central College**
Olney, IL 62450
Contact: Pam Schwartz
618/395-4351 x 2214
14. **Elgin Community College**
1700 Spartan Drive
Elgin, IL 60120
Contact: Donna Rudy
312/888-7847
15. **Tri-County Urban League**
317 S. MacArthur Highway
Peoria, IL 61605
Contact: Annie Gordon
309/673-7474

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Need more information?

Name _____

Agency _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

I would like the following information/
assistance:

- Information on resources and services where programs are not located:
- Displaced homemaker newsletter and other printed materials.
- Workshop/inservice for staff.
- Information on how we can start a displaced homemaker program.
- Other _____

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Employers are encouraged to contact the nearest center for more information on how they can hire displaced homemakers.

**Illinois Network for Displaced Homemakers
Sangamon State University
Springfield, IL 62794-9243**

Place
Stamp
Here



A Network for Displaced Homemakers

The Illinois Network for Displaced Homemakers is a statewide information and referral service for displaced homemakers and service providers. The network serves as a clearinghouse for information on existing programs and services and can provide technical assistance to agencies serving displaced homemakers. The network publishes newsletters and other materials. Information is available by calling toll-free 800/252-4822.

This brochure is a product of the Illinois Network for Displaced Homemakers and is paid for by a grant from the *Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs*. For further information concerning DCCA funding of displaced homemaker programs contact Jill Halverson at 217/785-6036.

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